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September 29, 2003

TO: Each Supervisor

FROM: Thomas L. Garthwaite, M.D.
Director and Chief Medical Officer

Jonathan E. Fielding, M.D., M.P.H.
Director of Public Health and Health Officer

SUBJECT: UPDATE ON THE NURSE-FAMILY PARTNERSHIP (NFP) PROGRAM

On June 26, 2003, the Board approved a motion by Supervisor Yaroslavsky allocating an additional \$400,000 in CalWORKs Performance Incentive funds for FY 2002-03 for the Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP) Program for a total of \$1.3 million. The Board also requested the Department of Public Social Services (DPSS), the Chief Administrative Office (CAO), the New Directions Task Force and the Community Planning Group to prioritize funding for this Program when the Long-Term Family Self-Sufficiency (LTFSS) funding plan was reviewed in January 2003, and that no additional families be enrolled in the Program until alternate funding is identified. The Board subsequently approved an additional \$500,000 in LTFSS funding for the NFP Program on March 4, 2003, that was approximately \$300,000 less than what was required to keep the LTFSS funded portion of the Program fully operational until June 2003.

This is the ninth report on the implementation of this motion. Since my last report on June 24, 2003, there have been no major developments, and the following actions are continuing:

The Department continues to support those LTFSS-funded NFP nurses, administrative support staff and evaluation team members who could not be moved to vacant items on other funding streams using Net County Cost (NCC) with matching State Maternal, Child and Adolescent Health (MCAH) funds.

The NFP program ceased enrollment of new clients under this funding stream, but continues to provide services to approximately 100 LTFSS families who were previously enrolled.

The full proposal to The UniHealth Foundation for funding four nursing staff (including partial funding for administrative and research support staff) at California Hospital and Medical Center (CHMC) has been completed and submitted prior to the August 27, 2003 deadline.

Dr. David Olds, the proprietor of the model program, has received tentative support from officials of the State's Justice Department to help fund NFP Los Angeles. The Justice Department is interested in giving NFP Los Angeles \$500,000 to \$800,000 with the stipulation that matching funds must be obtained by the County. First 5 LA is considering providing the needed matching dollars as a stop-gap measure until long-term funding can be identified.

A collaborative endeavor has been undertaken with the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) to submit a joint funding proposal to the Eisner Foundation to continue NFP services along with LACOE's "Keep Your Freedom—Keep Your Dreams" Program that lost funding. The proposal is currently being finalized, and will be submitted as soon as it is completed.

The Medicaid Administrative Activity (MAA) and Targeted Case Management (TCM) funding is still being assessed for NFP Los Angeles. A time study has been completed for this Program and we are waiting for State approval of the MAA Plan.

- Efforts continue to extend the NFP Home Visitation contract funded by the First 5 L.A., and also to explore funding NFP services through several of their new initiatives (e.g., Partnership for Families (PFF) formerly the Child Abuse Prevention Initiative, and the Healthy Births Initiative). NFP, as well as the other home visiting agencies, have the potential to provide key services within these initiatives, but the initiatives have not yet been developed to the point of determining a possible role for NFP or estimating the extent of possible future funding.

The Department will continue to seek alternate funding sources and provide you with another update when there are significant developments. In the meantime, if you have any questions or need additional information, please let me know.

TG:jds
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c: Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel
Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
Director of Public Social Services